

Metropolitan ENT & Facial Plastic Surgery

We are a group of Board Certified Otolaryngologists who are dedicated to bringing their expertise in the field of ear, nose and throat disorders, as well as specializing in surgical procedures of the head and neck, and facial cosmetic surgery. We offer state of the art procedures and a wide range of services including sinus care, allergy, audiology, snoring, sleep disorders and cosmetic surgical and non-surgical services. We welcome you and appreciate the opportunity to provide you information about our practice.

Metropolitan ENT and Facial Plastic Surgery

6355 Walker Lane suite 308
Alexandria VA, 22209

METROPOLITAN ENT PENICILLIN ALLERGY TESTING

Approximately 85% of patients tested for penicillin allergy are not truly allergic.

Overview

Allergy to penicillin and related antibiotics is the most commonly reported drug allergy in the United States

Approximately 85% of patients who describe themselves as penicillin allergic will have negative skin tests and can safely receive penicillin and related antibiotics

Who should be tested

Any patient with the history of a reaction to a penicillin antibiotic or who is currently denied access to certain antibiotics out of concern for such reactions

Get tested now, BEFORE you get sick or need to be hospitalized for any reason. Although you can be tested at any time, having access to penicillin antibiotics can make any visit to the hospital or urgent care less expensive

Prior to testing

Please inform us of your past medical history, current medications, as well as penicillin allergy history

All antihistamine medications will need to be discontinued for 7 days prior to testing

What to expect

Penicillin skin testing involves applying skin prick tests with PRE-PEN, Penicillin-G, and both positive and negative controls

We will examine the test sites for a reaction and if the testing is negative we will apply intradermal tests with the same substances

If the intradermal tests are negative we will perform an oral challenge

The whole process takes 60-90 minutes

Benefits of Testing

Appropriate Treatment

Unnecessary denial of effective and well tolerated treatment. Being treated with penicillin antibiotics can provide a more specific treatment with fewer side effects

Combat drug resistance

Decrease the overuse of broad spectrum antibiotics which leads to increased drug-resistant bacteria

Cost

Decrease out of pocket costs for antibiotics, since many alternatives to penicillin are costly

Contraindications to testing

Patients with severe skin reactions such as Stevens-Johnsons syndrome or Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis should not undergo penicillin skin testing as it may reactivate their disease

Patients with a history of ANAPHYLAXIS when given penicillin antibiotics

Contact Us

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